The Cleveland Museum of Art

Press Release

For Immediate Release
August 20, 1999

Contact: Stacie Leatherman, ext. 265

GALLERY REOPENING HIGHLIGHTED BY CHALK FESTIVAL AND WORLD RECOGNIZED EGYPTOLOGIST

CLEVELAND — In celebration of its newly reinstalled Egyptian galleries, the Cleveland Museum of Art (CMA) will host two weekends of Egyptian-themed family activities. Highlights include a lecture by **Dr. Renée Friedman, co-author of *Egypt Uncovered***, plus an array of workshops, concerts, and the **Tenth Annual Chalk Festival**.

The festivities kick off September 25 and 26 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. with the Chalk Festival. Individuals, families, schools, and neighborhood groups of all skill levels are once again invited to join the hundreds of participants and thousands of spectators in this event. The settings are both the south terrace, between Rodin's *The Thinker* and the Fine Arts Garden lagoon, and at the museum's north (main) entrance. Participants can rent their own small square of pavement with a 12-color box of chalk for $5 or a large square with a 24-color box of chalk for $10. Reserve a square by calling (216) 421-7340, ext. 483 by Wednesday, September 22, or register upon arrival.

These featured chalk artists for 1999 will all create chalk paintings inspired by Egyptian art or culture: Bruno Casiano, Catherine Cervas, Dyane Hronek Hanslik, Mark Jenks, George Kozman, Hector Castellanos Lara, Alan Peters, and Jesse Rhinehart. Robin VanLear, who has worked with large-scale chalk art for 11 years, is festival director. VanLear, who is also artistic director of Parade the Circle and CMA community arts coordinator, will make a large street chalking related to the reinstallation of the Egyptian galleries. Her creation will be on the sandstone outside the museum's north entrance. Observing the chalk artists at work is free.

A giant puppet of the Egyptian god Osiris will make an appearance at the festival, and music will be part of the festivities as well. On Saturday, *Rare Blend* will present a program of jazz/fusion from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Later in the afternoon, chalkers and observers can listen to *DBC*, who will play an eclectic mix of pop, blues, and jazz from 2 to 4 p.m. On Sunday, the *Roberto Ocasio Latin Jazz Project* performs from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.; bringing the weekend to a close, *Blues DeVille* will take the stage from 2 to 4 p.m. All entertainment is free.

(more...)

11150 EAST BOULEVARD, CLEVELAND, OHIO 44106-1797
TEL 216-421-7340 TDD 216-421-0018 FAX 216-421-0411

Discovery Channel Co-author Comes Home to Greater Cleveland for Festival Appearance

The second weekend of special opening events will be the Family Egyptian Festival weekend, which will feature an **archeology lecture**, *Hierakonpolis: One Hundred Years of Exploration in Egypt's First Capital*, by Beachwood native **Renée Friedman** on **Friday, October 1 at 7:30 p.m.** in Gartner Auditorium. Dr. Friedman is co-author of *Egypt Uncovered*, the book published to accompany the popular five-part Discovery Channel series of the same name. She is currently Director of the American Expedition to Hierakonpolis. The ancient capital is the site of Egypt's earliest temple — dating to around 3500 BC — and the place where the first mummies have been found, as well as Egypt's first stone-cut tomb and the earliest preserved royal palace. Dr. Friedman is also Special Assistant in the Department of Egyptian Antiquities at the British Museum, London. Free tickets to CMA members; $3, non-members; tickets available at the Ticket Center, or by calling (216) 421-7350 or toll-free 1-888-CMA-0033.

On **Saturday, October 2 and Sunday, October 3**, Egyptian music will filter through the museum halls as harpist Christina Kline presents a collection of ancient Egyptian folk songs from 1 to 4 p.m. both days at the top of the stairs to the galleries of ancient art. On Saturday and Sunday at 1:30 and 3 p.m. *De Organographia*, an Oregon-based ensemble who performs music of the ancient world using a myriad of faithful reproductions of period instruments, will present a program of Egyptian music in the Recital Hall.

Serpents and other Egyptian and African creatures will be in the Indoor Garden Court from 2 to 4 p.m., courtesy of the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo, and a papyrus making demonstration will be conducted by expert papyrus and paper maker Karen Koykka O'Neal from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday and 1 to 3 p.m. Sunday in the museum classrooms. The Egyptian god Horus will also be on hand over the weekend in the form of a costumed member of CMA's Artcrew.

Register for Chalk Workshops and Drop In at *Free* Family Egyptian Festival Workshops

Two weeks prior to the Chalk Festival, the museum will offer a two-part workshop on chalk artistry. Participants may choose one of the two sessions offered each week. *Chalk Making* will be offered **Sunday, September 12 from 3 to 4:30 p.m.** and repeated on **Wednesday, September 15 from 7 to 8:30 p.m.** Participants will learn to make chalk using an old world recipe with new world materials. *Street Painting* will be held on **Sunday, September 19 from 3 to 4:30 p.m.** and repeated on **Wednesday, September 22, from 7 to 8:30 p.m.** Registrants will practice professional techniques for masking, stenciling, shading, and enlarging a picture. One fee of $15 for individuals and $35 for families includes materials and a square for the festival; children under 15 must register with an adult. The contact number for chalk workshop registration and all Chalk Festival questions is (216) 421-7340, ext. 483.

The following free drop-in workshops are part of the Family Egyptian Festival weekend October 2 and 3, climaxing in processions from the classroom level to CMA's south entrance each afternoon at 4 p.m.:

(more…)

Instrument Making Workshop: Led by Dr. Craig Woodson, participants can learn to make and play their own musical instruments based on Egyptian models using household materials at 1 and 3 p.m. Saturday and Sunday in the museum classrooms.

Egyptian Costumes and Crafts Workshop: Make headdresses or collars, shawabty, or reed boats in these fun workshops on Saturday from 11 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. and Sunday from 1 to 3:45 p.m. on the classroom level.

Temple Construction Workshop: Construct an Egyptian temple complete with hieroglyphs to be the finale of a procession with costumes and music at the end of each day. The workshop is from 2 to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday on the South Steps.

The museum will be open normal hours during the Chalk Festival and Family Egyptian Festival from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. Admission is free to the museum.

The reinstallation of the Egyptian galleries, audience development, and public programs related to the *Convening the Community* initiative presented at the CMA are made possible by a grant from the Lila Wallace-Reader's Digest Fund. The Chalk Festival is funded by the Cleveland Museum of Art. For more information about CMA's upcoming events, call the Education and Public Programs hotline for a list of activities at (216) 421-7340, ext. 464, or visit the museum on the web at www.clemusart.com.

# # #